

**REMARKS**

This Amendment is filed conjunction with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and in response to the final Office Action dated May 7, 2008, and is respectfully submitted to be fully responsive to the rejections raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits and allowance are respectfully requested.

In the present Amendment, claim 1 has been amended by incorporating further recitations for component (C), the tackifier resin, and by reciting a compounding ratio range therefor with respect to components (A) and (B). Support for the amendment can be found, e.g., on page 9 at lines 3 to 19 in the present specification. No new matter has been added.

Entry of the Amendment is respectfully submitted to be proper. Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 1-7 continue to be all the claims pending in the application.

**I. Response to Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Based on Watabe**

The Office Action indicated that claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 2005-059267 ("Watabe").

Applicants traverse and respectfully submit that the rejection should not be repeated in view of the amended claim 1 and in further view of the following remarks.

Claim 1 is directed to a pressure sensitive adhesive product obtained by curing a pressure sensitive adhesive composition which comprises the components (A), (B), and (C): (A) is a hydrolyzable silyl group-containing organic polymer containing at least 1.3 hydrolyzable silyl groups per molecule and having a number average molecular weight of 15,000 to 100,000; (B) is

a hydrolyzable silyl group-containing organic polymer containing 0.3 to 1.3 hydrolyzable silyl groups per molecule and having a number average molecular weight of 500 to 15,000, the main chain of which polymer being substantially composed of a repeating unit or units represented by the general formula  $-R^1-O-$  ( $R^1$  being a divalent alkylene group); and (C) is a tackifier resin selected from the group consisting of terpene resins, terpene-phenol resins, petroleum resins and rosin ester resins, and admixtures thereof, and a compounding ratio of 5 to 150 parts by weight, relative to a combined total of 100 parts by weight of (A) and (B).

The pressure sensitive adhesive product of the presently claimed invention is obtained by curing the pressure sensitive adhesive composition comprising the components (A), (B) and (C) of claim 1. The presently claimed adhesive product employs resins selected from the group consisting of terpene resins, terpene-phenol resins, petroleum resins, rosin ester resins, and admixtures which are excellent as a tackifier resin (C). Further, the compound ratio of component (C) ranges from 5 to 150 parts by weight, relative to a combined total of 100 parts by weight of components (A) and (B). Excellent pressure sensitive adhesive properties are obtained by employing specific tackifier resins and controlling the amount thereof.

Applicants respectfully submit that the presently claimed pressure sensitive adhesive product is patentable over Watabe. Watanabe discloses a curable composition comprising a polyoxypropylene polymer (I) containing hydrolysable silicon groups and having a high molecular weight and a low molecular weight compound (II) containing hydrolysable silicon groups and having a main chain of polyether. Watabe does not describe a tackifier resin which is

selected from the group consisting of terpene resins, terpene-phenol resins, petroleum resins and rosin ester resins, or admixtures thereof, nor does it describe a compounding ratio thereof.

Watabe describes [0041] that the composition may contain as an additive adhesive grant agents such as phenol resin and an epoxy resin, etc.; however, Applicant notes that phenol resin and epoxy resin would not function as a tackifier in accordance with the presently claimed invention. Phenol resins are obtained by addition and condensation reaction of phenol and formaldehyde, and are used in an adhesive.

Epoxy resins are also used in adhesive compositions, and resins that are categorized as tackifiers include particular phenolic resins, such as alkyl phenol resin, modified phenol resin and terpene-phenol resin. However, phenol resins *per se*, namely simple phenol resins, as disclosed in Watabe, are not included in the category of tackifiers..

In sum, Watabe does not teach the tackifier resin in accordance with the presently claimed invention, nor the amount thereof. Accordingly, the presently claimed invention is not anticipated by Watabe.

Applicant therefore respectfully submits that the rejection should now be withdrawn.

## **II. Conclusion**

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of pending claims 1-7 of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited.

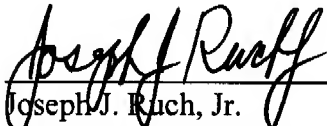
AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)  
U.S. Application No.: 10/586,858

Attorney Docket No.: Q95836

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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